SUBJECT: DEFENDER CHALLENGE (DC) 2004

1. THE AIR FORCE SECURITY FORCES CENTER IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE DATES FOR THE 23RD ANNUAL DC, WHICH WILL BE HELD FROM 22-28 OCT 2004. THIS YEAR'S OPERATING LOCATIONS WILL INCLUDE LACKLAND MAIN BASE, MEDINA ANNEX AND CAMP BULLIS, TEXAS.   GENERAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:
A. CONUS TEAMS SCHEDULE ARRIVAL AT LACKLAND NOT EARLIER THAN THURSDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2004. OCONUS-BASED TEAMS NOT IN CONUS, ARRIVE AT LACKLAND NOT EARLIER THAN TUESDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2004, TO ALLOW FOR TIME CHANGE ADJUSTMENT. HOWEVER, IF OCONUS-BASED TEAMS ARE ALREADY IN CONUS FOR PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING CAMP, ETC., THEN ARRIVE AT LACKLAND NOT EARLIER THAN 21 OCTOBER 2004.
B. FRIDAY, 22 OCTOBER 2004: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING; TEAM MEMBER BRIEFING AND TEAM CAPTAIN'S ORIENTATION TOUR; OPENING CEREMONY; TEAM PHOTOS; AND MEET AND GREET.
C. SATURDAY, 23 OCTOBER, THROUGH WEDNESDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2004: COMPETITION.
D. THURSDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2004: CLOSING CEREMONIES AND AWARDS RECEPTION.
E. FRIDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2004: TEAMS DEPART.
2. DUE TO CONTINUED HEAVY DEPLOYMENT OF SECURITY FORCES PERSONNEL AROUND THE WORLD, THIS YEAR'S DC WILL AGAIN BE REDUCED IN SCOPE. DC 2004 WILL BE MORE THAN JUST A COMPETITION. IT PRESENTS THE BEST OPPORTUNITY TO

ADVANCE THE USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND REVISE TACTICS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES FOR SECURITY FORCES OPERATIONS WORLDWIDE. EMPLOYMENT OF FORCE PROTECTION AERIAL SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM, M4 CARBINE, ADVANCED OPTICAL SIGHTS, LONG RANGE SENSORS, PERSONAL ROLE RADIO, 10-PERSON SQUAD AND SMALL TEAM TACTICS MAY INCREASE OUR EFFECTIVENESS. WE MUST CONTINUE EXPLORING NEW CONCEPTS TO INCREASE OUR MISSION EFFECTIVENESS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH FULL EMPLOYMENT OF THE INTEGRATED BASE DEFENSE CONOPS AND ASSOCIATED TECHNOLOGIES. EVENTS PLANNED FOR THIS YEAR ARE THE SADLER CUP, COMBAT WEAPONS, OBSTACLE COURSE (FITNESS & CHIEF'S CHALLENGE) AND HANDGUN. WE ALSO PLAN TO INCORPORATE CLOSE PRECISION ENGAGEMENT (CPE) (SHARPSHOOTER CAPABILITY NOT DESIGNATED MARKSMAN) INTO THE COMPETITION. ALL EVENT DETAILS ARE STILL BEING DEVELOPED AND MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW.

3. THIS YEAR'S TEAM PREPARATION TIME WILL AGAIN BE LIMITED:

A. MAJCOMS MAY HOLD THEIR OWN COMPETITIONS TO SELECT A TEAM. COMPETITION TEAMS WILL CONSIST OF 9 MEMBERS (TWO THREE MAN FIRE TEAMS-6; ONE CLOSE PRECISION ENGAGEMENT TEAM-2; 1 ALTERNATE AND 1 COACH) AND WILL NOT EXCEED A TOTAL OF 10 TEAM MEMBERS.

B. MAJCOMS MAY CONDUCT ORGANIZED PREPARATION AND/OR TRAINING NOT TO EXCEED 21 DAYS. BASE YOUR TRAINING START DATE ON THE DATE YOU PLAN TO DEPART YOUR LOCATION FOR LACKLAND AFB TX.

C. SADLER CUP WILL AGAIN INVOLVE THE TRANSFORMATIONAL SQUAD/FIRETEAM. SQUAD/FIRETEAM CONFIGURATION AND WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED IN A FUTURE MESSAGE.

D. US ARMY NATIONAL GUARD AND CONTRACT SECURITY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO SECURITY FORCES UNITS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE.

E. AS IN PAST YEAR, SECURITY FORCES FROM THE US AIR FORCE ACADEMY, AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND AND 11TH WING WILL FORM THE COMBINED TEAM.

F. ALLIED TEAMS AND OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY PARTICIPATION IS TO BE DETERMINED.

G. ALL COMMANDS ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE FEMALE TEAM MEMBER.

H. THIS YEAR PARTICIPATION IN DEFENDER CHALLENGE WILL BE LIMITED TO 2 YEARS THROUGHOUT A COMPETITORS CAREER (MEMBERS WHO HAVE ALREADY PARTICIPATED A TOTAL OF 2 TIMES ARE INELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE). THIS WILL ALSO APPLY TO BOTH ALLIED AND FEDERAL AGENCY TEAMS. DETAILS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE DC 2004 BROCHURE.

4. THE DC 04 BROCHURE IS PENDING APPROVAL AND WHEN PUBLISHED ON THE HQ AFSFC RESTRICTED WEB SITE IT WILL BE ANNOUNCED VIA MESSAGE. ADDITIONAL DC INFORMATION WILL BE RELEASED IN SUBSEQUENT MESSAGES/E-MAIL. THE DC 2004 DIRECTOR OF COMPETITION IS HQ AFSFC/SFOP, DSN 945-7058, **E-MAIL:** AFSFC.EXECUTIVECOUNCIL@LACKLAND.AF.MIL. DEPUTY COMPETITION DIRECTOR IS HQ AFSFC/SFON, DSN 945-7061, E-MAIL: AFSFC.EXECUTIVECOUNCIL@LACKLAND.AF.MIL.

5. PLEASE PROVIDE THE NAME, PHONE NUMBER AND E-MAIL ADDRESS OF YOUR MAJCOM PROJECT OFFICER NLT 11 JUNE 2004.

UNCLAS